

AN
ACCOUNT
OF THE
MIRACLE

Wrought on the 31st of May, the Feast of
Corpus Christi, in the Year 1725, at the
Procession of St Margaret's Parish in the
Suburbs of St Antony at Paris.

In the Person of ANNE CHARLIER,
Wife to FRANCIS DE LA FOSSE Master
Ebonist.

GATHER'D

From the verbal Processes made in the Archbishop's
Court at Paris, and containing all the remarkable
Circumstances of this great Event.

*Publish'd at Paris with the Permission of his Eminence the
Cardinal de NOAILLES, Archbishop of Paris, and
with the King's Privilege.*

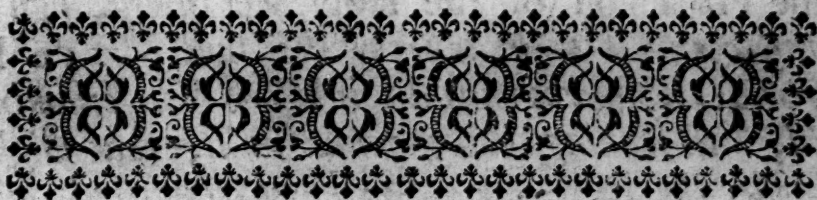
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T H E
 P E R M I S S I O N
 O F H I S
 E M I N E N C E the C A R D I N A L
 De Noailles,
 A R C H B I S H O P of P A R I S.

Lewis Antony de Noailles, *by Divine Permission, Cardinal-Priest of the Holy Roman Church, by the Title of St. Mary on Minerva, Archbishop of Paris, Duke of St. Cloud, Peer of France, Commander of the Order of the Holy Ghost, Provisor of Sorbonne, and Superior of the House of Navarre: Whereas it has been represented to us, by Francis Babuty, Bookseller of Paris, that he desir'd to sell, and publish in our Diocese, An Account of the Miracle wrought at Paris, in the Person of Mrs Charlier, the Wife of Mr de la Fosse, the 31st of*

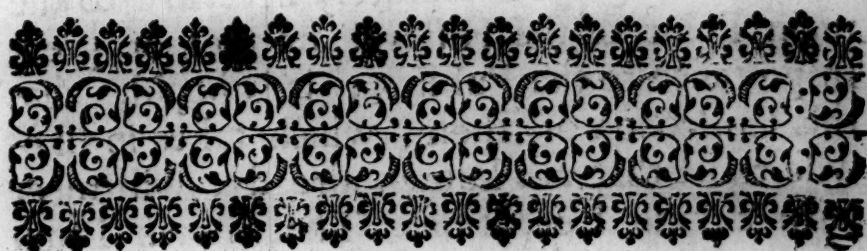
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of May, 1725, the Feast of *Corpus Christi*, at the Procession of the Holy Sacrament, sign'd and certify'd to be true by the said Mrs de la Fosse: *We have caus'd this Work to be examined, and nothing being found in it, that might hinder the Publication, we have permitted, and do permit by these Presents, the said Francis Babuty, to publish it. Given at Paris, the 28th of February 1726.*

Sign'd † LEWIS ANTONY, *Cardinal de Noailles, Archbishop of Paris.*

By his EMINENCE,

CHEVALIER.



An ACCOUNT

Of the

MIRACLE

Wrought at Paris in the Suburbs of St. Antony and St. Margaret's Parish, the 31st of May, 1725, the Feast of Corpus Christi, at the Procession of the Holy Sacrament.

THE Miracle wrought at *Paris*, in the Parish of *St. Margaret*, having made so great a Noise, 'tis somewhat strange, that no one has yet given the World an exact Relation of its Circumstances. 'Tis true, my Lord Cardinal *de Noailles*, Archbishop of this City, has related the Principal in the sublime Mandate, publish'd by his Eminence last *August*. But as there are several more, which,

which, though not absolutely necessary to the main Point of the History, are yet of great Importance to the Publick; it is hop'd, that this Collection of them, which takes in likewise those that are known already, will meet with a kind Reception. The known Truth of the first will not suffer those which I have here join'd with them, to be call'd in Question. Beside, that nothing shall be recounted, but what has been attested by the verbal Processes of the juridical Informations which his Eminence commanded, or by the Person her self, on whom the Miracle was wrought, and what is known to a great Number of those who may happen to read this Writing. We shall therefore relate with Confidence the Things we have learn'd concerning this extraordinary Event, and shall think it a Happiness, if by this Narrative, we may be able to contribute to his Glory, whose Mercy has signaliz'd it self, in so conspicuous a Manner, in our Days.

A Woman of Five and forty Years of Age, nam'd *Anne Charlier*, marry'd to Mr *Francis de la Fosse*, Master *Ebonist*, dwelling in the Suburbs of *St. Antony*, *Charonne-street*, had been afflicted with an Issue of Blood, for about the Space of twenty Years. This Infirmary, indeed, was not without some Intermision; for, after several Years, she had enjoy'd an Interval of Ease: But, seven Years ago, being brought to Bed of a Son, who was the last of her Children, from that Time she
had

had no Abatement of her Distemper; and for the last eighteen Months, it was encreas'd to that Degree, that she was no longer able to go abroad, or to manage her Affairs at home, which till then she had done; nor even to stand upon her Legs. She felt in them at first excessive Pains; but afterwards, they were dead in a manner, and so exceeding cold, that being twice burnt by the Application of hot Cloaths, she felt it not in the least.

THIS Infirmary was likewise attended with several other Misfortunes. The sick Woman for a long Time had a very smart Pain on her right Side, and her Sight grew daily weaker: In fine, her Condition was such, that she could neither rest in the Night, nor bear the Light in the Day, nor move from one Place to another, even with the Help of Crutches.

ALL this was known to a very considerable Number of People; and not only to the Relations and Neighbours of the sick Person, but to many of the Suburbs and of the City, who became acquainted with her, on Occasion of her Husband's Works and Trading. " There
 " are several, says the Cardinal *de Noailles*,
 " who have depos'd, that they found her
 " sometimes bath'd in her Blood, without
 " Power to walk, and her Sight so impair'd,
 " that she could not distinguish those who
 " came to see her, and only knew them by
 " the Sound of their Voice; so generally
 " without Appetite, that she could not take
 " any Nourishment without grievous Tor-
 " ment;

“ ment; so lean and worn away, that she
 “ was thought to be past Hopes of Recovery;
 “ and abandon’d by the Doctors, because
 “ they judg’d her Disease to be incurable.”

Upon this account, she took a Resolution, fifteen Days before her Cure, to get some Friend to procure Admittance for her among the *Incurables*, or into some other Hospital, where she might find those Helps, which she was no longer able to provide for her self.

SUCH was her Distress on the twenty seventh of last May, 1725, when she communicated to the Clergyman, who had been her Confessor for ten Years, the Design with which her Faith had inspir’d her. Having made her Confession, she told him, she had an extreme Desire, when she was carry’d down to her Door on the approaching Feast of *Corpus Christi*, and that the Procession was passing by, to cry to our Lord, in order to beg her Cure of him, and to follow him till she had obtain’d it, since all the Art of Physicians had not been able to procure it.

SHE had had a like Thought the Year before, but whether it was out of Fear or human Respects, or even an Inability to express her self, for she found her self very ill when they had set her at the Door; she had not then Power to execute her Resolution. But when the last Feast of the Blessed Sacrament drew near, her Faith reviv’d, and she felt her self incited in a more pressing Manner, to accomplish its Inspiration.

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THE Confessor of Mrs *de la Fosse*, though edify'd with her Faith, was not yet for advising her to follow its Impulse. He fear'd it might be a sort of Rashness in her, to beg of God in so publick a Manner, a Favour which might be refus'd her, since it was not due to her; and the Refusal of which would certainly very much afflict her, and perhaps might turn to the Prejudice of Religion in the Minds of Protestants, who are very numerous in St. *Margaret's* Parish. It seem'd to him more convenient, that Mrs *de la Fosse*, without attempting a Way so very extraordinary, should content her self with continuing to beg her Cure of God, as she had always done to that Time. He remonstrated to her, that God was no less able to cure her in her own House, than to restore her Health in publick; and that, if her Faith was strong enough to merit this Favour, God would not reject her Prayer; and as she signified to him, that she should have the Devotion to communicate the next Day, he advis'd her to content her self with intreating Jesus Christ to cure her, when she communicated.

THIS Advice of the Priest was agreeable to the common Rules of Prudence: But he, who by an extraordinary Inspiration had possess'd the Heart of the sick Woman with the Design she had just reveal'd, had not in vain inspir'd it into her: He knew what he resolv'd to do; and Mrs *de la Fosse*, animated by his Spirit, still persisted in the Design she had form'd. In

fine, the Confessor finding that she was fix'd upon it, ask'd her, how she could imagine, she should follow the Procession, to ask her Cure of God? He remonstrated to her, that in the Condition she was then, her Project was not reasonable, that she could not walk one Step, and would be crush'd to Pieces by the Crowd. But Mrs *de la Fosse* despising all these Difficulties, which the Merit of her Faith was quickly to remove, continu'd still to affirm, that she would follow the Blessed Sacrament. *I will drag my self along*, said she, *as well as I can, on my Knees, on my Hands; but drag my self I will, to follow it. If I be not cur'd, I will bear the Confusion of my Disappointment: The Trouble I shall feel upon it, will make me die: But I shall die in the Presence of my God, after having begg'd of him the Pardon of my Sins; and that will satisfy me.*

MRS *de la Fosse* could not better express, how unalterably she was determin'd to execute the Design she had form'd, and every body will judge her Resolution to be extraordinary: But it will not be a Matter of so great Astonishment, when we know what Idea she fram'd to her self, of the Favour she design'd to ask of Almighty God. Every one looks upon it, and with very good Reason, as a Prodigy of the highest Rank; but for her Part, she had not that Idea of it. God had conceal'd from her the Greatness of the Miracle, which he had inspir'd her to ask; nay she did not so much as think it any Miracle; and her

her Confessor was not able to persuade her, that it was so. Wholly taken up with the Power and Goodness of the Almighty, to whom all Things are equally feasible when he pleases, and measuring what she ask'd, rather by the Notions of God, than by those of Men; her Cure seem'd to her an Effect which ought very naturally to follow, and she depended on it, as an Event that was infallibly to take Place. *God will cure me,* said she within her self, *I shall walk, and I shall follow the Procession like other People.*

MEAN while she caus'd her self to be carry'd to Church the Day after she had confels'd, which was the 28th of the Month. She had been offer'd to have the Blessed Sacrament brought to her House, and had been press'd to consent to it: But she would not suffer it, and was therefore carry'd in a Chair to the Church. It was the third Time she had gone out in eighteen Months, and it was not without suffering by it. For so great was her Weakness, that, to rise from her Chair, which was at the Foot of the Altar, and to kneel for the Moment of her Communion, she was forc'd to be sustain'd by two Persons; and after this Effort, she was carry'd from Church in a dying Condition. She begg'd our Lord, at the Holy Communion, the Cure of her Infirmary, as her Confessor had advis'd her. But her Prayer was not heard for that Time. God's appointed Moment was still to come, and the Redoubling of that Confidence she felt

in her Soul, that Jesus Christ would cure her the *Thursday* following, was a sort of Token, whereby he notify'd to her, that her Recovery should be effected on the Day she expected it.

Thus was she more and more fortify'd in her Design. And, in fine, the Feast of *Corpus Christi*, the Day so impatiently expected, being come, from the second Story, where she had her Chamber, she went down to the first, as now and then she us'd to do, crawling on her Hands and Knees, because the Straitness of the Stairs would not suffer her to be carry'd: But being come to the last Stair, her Feet had so sharp a Stroak, and her whole Body so violent a Shock, that she almost lost her Senses; she was therefore settled in the next Chamber, by the Fire-side, where she stay'd till the Moment of the Procession.

PROVIDENCE, which governs all Things, to give this Miracle, it was about to work, all the Splendor that might ascertain the Truth of it, was pleas'd, that a Protestant Woman, who was a Friend of the Sick, should this very Moment make her a Visit. She came into St. Margaret's Parish to see her Son, who was also a Protestant, and a Neighbour of Mrs *de la Fosse*, and in her Way stept in to see her: She found her in a most sorrowful Condition, quite stunn'd with the Accident which had befallen her, overwhelm'd with her Infirmities, particularly with the Pain of her Side, which took away her Breath; unable to speak or
move,

move, and in such Desolation, as she had never before seen her. She drew near, and spoke to her; but receiving no Answer, Why, Mrs *de la Fosse*, said she, do not you know me? At these Words, the sick Woman casting her Eyes on her Friend, made Answer, Is it you? Alas! I am in a most deplorable Condition, I have lost all Hopes, and it would be happy for me, if God would take me out of the World. I have suffer'd a long Time: My Hopes are fled, and my Patience is quite spent.

THE Protestant very sensibly concern'd to find her in Sentiments which she consider'd might endanger her Salvation, reprov'd her for losing Courage: Represented to her, " That she ought not to give Way to so much Impatience; that the Disposition in which she found her, was unbecoming of a Christian; that it could not but be shocking to as many as were Witnesses to it, in a Person, who, perhaps the next Moment, might step into the other World." But the sick Woman, looking on her self to be answerable to God for Faults, which were far more grievous than her Impatience; and being more afraid of not expiating them, than she was of dying, answer'd her Friend, *That in Case God should take her that very Moment out of the World, it would still be a great Mercy to her; and that as great a Sinner as she was, she would rather die guilty of her Impatience, than live longer to offend God more.* Upon this

this Answer of *Mrs de la Fosse*, which so clearly manifested the Bottom of her Heart, and gave sufficiently to understand, that her Passion of Grief had not weaken'd her Piety; the Protestant endeavour'd to revive her Courage, and exhorted her to place her Confidence in God. *If he has been All-powerful in beating you down*, said she to her, *he will likewise be All-powerful in lifting you up again.* Do not you read the Gospel? Continu'd she, and do not you find, that all who have put their Hope in him, have obtain'd the Favours they ask'd? On this Occasion she mention'd to her all the Miracles wrought by Jesus Christ in the Days of his Flesh; and in particular, "the Cures of the
 " Man born blind, of the Paralytick, and of
 " the Hemorrhoid. She told her, That the
 " Goodness he shew'd to this last, who had
 " labour'd under such another Disease as her
 " own, ought to animate her Confidence,
 " that if she had as much Faith as that Woman, she would find the like Recompence;
 " and that she should reflect, how none
 " of those who address'd themselves to
 " God with Confidence, were ever put to
 " Confusion."

THIS Assistance, which Providence had contriv'd for *Mrs de la Fosse*, came very seasonably. God shew'd on this Occasion, how he can serve himself of any Instrument, to do Good to those whom he loves: And the sick Person has thought herself oblig'd to acknowledge,

ledge, that this Woman was a great Help to her, in that Lowness of Spirit which then oppress'd her ; that her Exhortations gave new Life to her Faith, and that she afforded her a great deal of Comfort.

BUT the Impression of her Grief was not yet intirely dissipated, nor had her late Design of asking her Cure of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, been recall'd to Mind ; for while these Things pass'd, Mr. *de la Fosse* being come to tell her, That in her present Condition it would not be proper for her to be carried down to the Door ; that she must be content with being mov'd to the Window of the Chamber where she was ; and that from thence she might adore the Blessed Sacrament as it pass'd ; she consented to it.

MEAN While, the same Persons who had carried her to the Door the last Year, seeing the Procession advance, came to offer themselves to do her the same Service, *I am very ill this Year*, said she to them ; *nevertheless I shall take it as a Favour, I shall be glad to see the Holy Sacrament pass* : Immediately they cover'd her Face, by Reason that her Eyes could not bear the Day-light, they carried her down ; and her Husband himself, who before had oppos'd it, in Regard of her weak Condition, allow'd her to satisfy her Devotion. About this Time the Protestant withdrew.

MRS *de la Fosse* being now at her Door, the Thought of addressing Jesus Christ recurr'd to her Mind. She was not able to resist

list the Impulse she felt; and seiz'd with a Trembling, like one who is attempting a great Action, she desir'd them who had brought her down, to advance her Chair into the Street, so that none might stand before her, and to let her know when the Blessed Sacrament came near; They did so, and immediately making an Effort to kneel, she slipt out of her Chair, without any ones perceiving it; and being extremely weak, fell heavily upon the Pavement: All that saw her, believ'd she was terribly hurt: Her Husband being present, fainted away, and was carried aside. The sick Woman, notwithstanding, rais'd herself on her Hands and Knees, advanc'd some Space in this Posture, in order to meet the Blessed Sacrament, crying with a Voice to which her Faith added Strength, *Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst heal me. I believe thou art the same who enter'd into Jerusalem; thou didst heal the Woman of the Gospel: Forgive me my Sins, and I shall be heal'd.* And these Words she repeated several Times.

THE People who attended the Blessed Sacrament, were astonish'd to see her, and to hear her cry in such a Manner without Interruption. Some were offended at it, taking her to be either mad, or seiz'd with some unaccountable Transport; others imagin'd her to be in a Fit of the Falling-sickness, or to be in Drink; so that they were for keeping her at a Distance; and even they who had help'd

help'd her down, pull'd her by the Clothes with so much Violence, that they tore them; but she kept her Ground, and catching Hold of the Clothes of some who follow'd the Procession, with a Degree of Strength, which to her Thinking, six men could not have master'd: *Let me follow my God*, said she in her own Defence, *and I shall be cur'd: Would you hinder me from being cur'd?* Which Words so affected some who heard her, with Compassion, that they said, *Ab! let the poor Woman alone, do not tear her to Pieces; let her satisfy herself.*

SHE advanc'd therefore some Steps, still upon her Knees, but quite bent; and as she felt it very painful to creep along in this Manner: *O my God*, said she, *every Body is now able to follow thee, and is in Joy; there is none in Tears besides my self. Lord, if thou wilt, I may follow thee like the rest.* At the same Time, that she made this Petition to our Lord, she made Use of all her Power to follow the Canopy, which insensibly got before her, *resolv'd*, as she said afterwards, *to follow her Saviour, though they had cut her to Pieces.*

IN fine, having thus crept on for the Space of thirty Yards, or thereabouts, she endeavour'd to rise, and with that Success, as at first, to raise her self on her Knees: Afterwards, with the Help of her Neighbours, who lent her their Arms, she got upon her Feet, but all in a Trembling; her Head giddy, and bending several Times, as ready to fall. Then

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she

she cry'd again to our Lord, with great Vehemency, repeating the same Prayer she had made to him, when she fell before him. After this, she perceiv'd, that her Heart was fortify'd, that a natural Heat warm'd all her Limbs, that her Legs were able to bear her, and she walk'd some Steps, leaning upon them who had lifted her up. In fine, she found she was strong enough to walk alone, and without Assistance: She desir'd the Persons, who had supported her, to leave her to her self; and they, in Effect, ceasing to bear her up, were so startled and amaz'd to see her walk, that they could neither speak to her, nor follow her.

SHE walk'd on with a steady Gate, and follow'd the Procession to the very Church, which is about a Mile from her House. 'Tis easy to imagine, how remarkable she appeared all this while: Her Head muffled up, her Clothes suitable to a sick Woman, who is not prepar'd to go abroad, and which had in some Degree been torn off from her Back, the Rank in which she kept, following the Blessed Sacrament, close by the Church-Wardens, and the Haste that appear'd in her Steps, were Circumstances which naturally drew upon her the Eyes of the Multitude that went nearest to the Procession. But as they did not know her, and were ignorant of what had happen'd to her, such of them as were told, that she was a sick Body, thought it strange, that in this Condition she should so expose her self,

as

as to follow the Procession; and others, who all along believ'd her to be mad, were at least for having her quit the Rank in which she walk'd. In fine, they never rested, till they saw her plac'd behind the Barrier, which the Guards made with their Halberts, to keep off the Crowd; and there she was forc'd to remain.

She was not satisfy'd with this Place, as we may easily believe. The Vivacity of her Desires could not easily submit to this Delay; and though no body was before her, her Eyes continually fixt on the Canopy, sufficiently demonstrated, what it was she had in View. Upon the main, her Impatience was not without Reason. The Cure of her Distemper was not yet complete. Her Issue of Blood still continued; nay she was taken with a violent Fit of this Weakness, the Moment she began to walk. Add to this, that *Mrs de la Fosse* had her Mind most strongly possess'd with this Thought, that she should be perfectly cur'd, the Moment she set her Foot in the Church; so that animated with this lively Persuasion, she incessantly repeated these Words, *Lord, if I can but enter into thy holy House, I shall be entirely cur'd.* Hence it was, that she thought she could never arrive too soon; and being wholly taken up with this Thought, she took no Notice of the many Repulses given by those about her, who were as much incommoded by her pressing forward, as offended with her Garb.

At last the Procession arriv'd at the open Place adjoining to the Church, and the Guards halted, to hinder the Crowd from advancing, till the Blessed Sacrament was enter'd. Here Mrs *de la Fosse* lost her Patience, and appear'd in so great an Agitation, that some who were near, either wearied out with seeing her Motions, or touch'd with Compassion, intreated one of the Guards to let her pass. He was willing to do it, and remov'd the Barrier. No sooner was room made for her passing, but she swiftly went along, and in the Twinkling of an Eye was seen at the Church Door. She enter'd following the Blessed Sacrament, and that Moment she perceiv'd that the Blood was stopt, and that she was perfectly cur'd.

So lively was her Joy, on account of the Benefit receiv'd, that she was not her self. She advanc'd quite transported, and was following the Blessed Sacrament even into the Quire: But an Ecclesiastick having stopt her at the Door, she remained there, tormented now on one Side, and then on the other, by those that stood round her, and unable to retire elsewhere, by reason of the vast Crowd of People; so that she was forc'd to continue on her Feet, and in the same Place, during the whole Office.

MEAN while, the Report of a Miracle being spread in the Neighbourhood of Mrs *de la Fosse*, had drawn to the Church those who had seen some Circumstances of it, or learn'd them

them from other Hands. Even some of those; who had follow'd the Procession, and observ'd the Series of what had pass'd, having heard some or other mention the Name of the sick Woman who was known to them; and being given to understand, that it was Mrs *de la Fosse* who had walk'd in the midst of them, were strangely astonish'd. In a little Space of Time, the whole Church in a manner was inform'd of the Miracle. Every Eye was in Search for Mrs *de la Fosse*: And as she was very easily to be distinguished by the Garb in which they had seen her at the Procession, they who were near enough to discover her, kept their Eyes incessantly fixt upon her, and impatiently wish'd they could have drawn nearer to her.

SHE, for her Part, tho' in the Midst of all the People, remain'd as it were in a profound Solitude; seeing only God, thinking only on his Mercies, melting into Tears at his Feet, begging of him the Remission of her Sins, thanking him with unexpressible Fervour, and with an audible Voice; in so much, that they who had her in the midst of them, and neither knew what had happen'd to her, nor what actually pass'd within her, being molested with it, murmur'd against her, and molested her in their Turns: But nothing was capable of weakening her Attention.

It happen'd too, when High Mass was ended, that having enter'd the Quire, there to adore the Blessed Sacrament, and many of those,

those, who were inform'd of what had pass'd; and kept their Eyes upon her, having follow'd her thither; each of them, before they retir'd, pass'd before her, and consider'd her with Attention. For her Part, as the sort of Extasy, into which she was wrapt, still continued; so she continu'd to pray with the same Fervour; only thinking it somewhat extraordinary, that every body should thus pass before her; but never imagining, that she her self should be the Object of Curiosity to those who gaz'd upon her.

ALL this Time the Husband of Mrs *de la Fosse*, a Man far advanc'd in Years, was in great Anxiety: For when the Procession was past, having no Sight of his Wife, he at first believ'd, that after her Fall, which he himself had beheld, the Crowd of People had trampled her to Death. But while he disturb'd himself with this afflicting Thought, he was told that his Wife had follow'd the Procession, and that she was at Church. One may judge, if this Piece of News did not seem to him somewhat extraordinary; most certainly it was not of such Nature, as to be credited upon the Spot, and upon the Word of the first that brought it. It serv'd only to astonish him, and keep him in Suspense, till he had receiv'd convincing Proofs of it. He therefore sent the youngest of his Children, only seven Years of Age, who then happen'd to be at home, to bring him some certain Tidings of his Wife. The Boy went, but could not
come

come at his Mother, till Mass was ended, by Reason of the Concourse of People, who fill'd the whole Church. When some Numbers of them were retir'd, he spy'd her on her Knees in the Quire, and went up to her; but so perswaded that his Mother was still infirm, and unable to walk, that he express'd, before all then present, his Concern for having found her at Church. *You wou'd come Mother,* said he to her, *and now who shall carry you home? Must I go then for the Arm-Chair?* His Mother made him no Answer; she remain'd till the End of Sext; and then she arose, but so little wearied, that not knowing it was one a Clock, she thought to have had a Mass of Thanksgiving said, and to have heard it before she left the Church. And it is worth remarking, that she was still fasting from Ten a Clock in the Morning of the Eve.

IN fine, Mrs *de la Fosse* finding it was 'late, went out of the Church, follow'd by a considerable Troop of People, and was much surpriz'd, when she appear'd at the Church-door, to see the Multitudes that waited for her, and came up to take a fuller View of her. For the Streets were throng'd to that Degree, that she had much ado to pass; and it was admirable to behold in all their Faces, the various Impressions, which the first Sight of Mrs *de la Fosse* immediately made upon them; some of them, seiz'd with Astonishment, could neither move nor speak; others burst into Tears; some of them bless'd our Lord, and seem'd trans-

transported with Joy; and there were others who disputed among themselves, 'Tis Mrs *de la Fosse*, said some of them; no, said others, 'tis not *she*, 'tis some other that resembles her. Her Children, on the contrary, the eldest of which was just come to the Church, and had join'd his Brother, cry'd aloud, *Yes, 'tis my Mother, no body carries her now, she walks alone*; and nevertheless, retaining still their Ideas of her late Condition, they first walk'd backward, presenting to her the Palms of their Hands, as it were, to support her, being all the while afraid she would fall, and asking her if she would always walk so for the future. Afterwards, having seen sufficiently that she was able to support her self, they kept by her, and talk'd to her: But she struck with the Lustre which God Almighty gave to the Work of his Hands, answer'd not one Syllable to any of their Questions; so that the youngest of them very seriously ask'd his Mother, *if she was really dumb*: And both of them afterwards leaving her behind, came to tell their Father, *that she was coming all alone, that no body carry'd her, but that she had lost her Tongue*.

WHILST she was coming forwards, the Rector of St. Margaret's coming from her Royal Highness the Dutchess Dowager of Orleans, was prodigiously surpriz'd, to meet such a Crowd of People in his Way: But he quickly understood the Reason of it; for so soon as he came near them, O Sir, said all his Parishioners,

thioners, *What a Blessing has this Day attended your Parish! Oh! What a Miracle! the sick Woman is cur'd.* And he asking who this sick Woman might be, *Ah, said they, 'tis Mrs de la Fosse; 'tis she who fell at your Feet, when you pass'd with the Blessed Sacrament.* 'Tis true, said he, *I observ'd a Woman, who pray'd with much Fervour, but I knew not who she was, nor what was her Distemper.* As he was speaking, Mrs. de la Fosse presented herself to him, and said, *Sir, I am cur'd;* he desir'd she would inform him, from what Infirmary God had deliver'd her, but she was seiz'd in such a Manner, as not to be able to give him an Answer. To supply her Defect, all that follow'd her of her Acquaintance, were for giving him an Account of what they knew; but as all of them talk'd at the same Time, the Rector not being able to hear what they said, went to his own House, where the Church-Wardens of the Parish expected him to Dinner. While they were at Table, he imparted to them what he had just now heard, and told them that there was one Mrs de la Fosse, who had been miraculously cur'd at the Procession. Mr. Guenot, the Confessor of the sick Person, being present when this was told, would by no Means believe it, but look'd upon it as an idle Story: The Rector was positive, and said he had seen her Walk. Mr. Guenot was never the more persuaded for all this, and said it was only an Effect of her imagination, which could

not be of any Continuance: In fine, the Rector resolv'd to inform him more fully about the Fact after Vespers.

WHILE Mrs *de la Fosse* was on her Way, the Protestant Woman had receiv'd some Account of what had pass'd; for her Son returning from a Neighbour's House, where it had been told, was come to bring her the News of it: She was so struck with it, that she chang'd Colour; but her Joy notwithstanding getting the upper Hand, *Go quickly*, said she to her Son, *and see how it is*. He went immediately, and in going to the Church, he found Mrs *de la Fosse*, who was coming from it, walking with a firm Step, and just ready to go up her Stairs: At the Sight of her, he was almost dying with Astonishment, as he has said himself. She was no longer that Woman, whom he had seen for so long a Time creeping on her Hands and Knees, and whom he call'd the *Crawling Worm*: He saw her walk with Ease, and without any Body to bear her up; so that he could neither take her for another Woman, nor yet believe his own Eyes; Mrs *de la Fosse* having seen him, stept to him; and to convince him still more of her Cure, she reconducted him as far as the Street-Door. Away went he directly to his Mother, and said to her, *Come and see, nothing is so true, I have just seen her at the Foot of her Stair-Case*; and that Instant the Protestant went to her Friend's House.

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MEAN While Mrs *de la Fosse* being come home, went into her Chamber, and embracing her Husband, *Let us bless the Lord*, said she to him, *I am cur'd*. One may easily imagine, how he was struck with the Sight of her. The very Effects of God's Goodness strike a Terror into Men, when they bear too visibly the Character of his Power; and we have seen it in all who were Witnesses to the Recovery of Mrs *de la Fosse*. Her Husband more interested than any other, in the Event, was likewise struck with it in a more extraordinary Manner; it was his Wife whom he had before him, but she was not, as one may say, the same Woman: Her sudden Recovery had in some Manner transfigur'd her to his Eyes, into another Person. So that like one who had seen an Apparition, he trembled prodigiously every Limb of him, was not able to speak one Syllable, when she came up to him; and his Trembling continu'd to be so violent, when the Information was taken, says his Eminence in his Mandate, that he was not able to sign his Deposition.

MRS *de la Fosse* had scarce enter'd into her Room, when the Protestant Woman was likewise there, to satisfy her self as to what she had heard; she saw with Joy that her Friend was perfectly cur'd, and congratulating the Blessing she had receiv'd, *My dear Child*, said she, *I told you with good Reason this Morning, that if you had Faith, you wou'd*

be cur'd. It was thus the Lord restor'd Health to those, who confided in him, while he was on Earth. Mrs de la Fosse was as sensible as she ought to be, of that Testimony of Joy and Affection, which her Friend gave her on this Occasion: She embrac'd her several Times, when she was come up to her, and in Terms of a most lively Acknowledgment, thank'd her for the good Office she had done her in the Morning. After God, said she to her, and she has often repeated it, After God, 'tis to you that I am indebted for my Cure. I consider you as the Instrument which God employ'd to fortify me in my Dejection, and prepare me for the Favour he design'd me. 'Tis himself who sent you to comfort me, and to revive my Sentiments of Faith.

THIS Protestant was not the only one, as may easily be imagin'd, who came to Mrs de la Fosse, upon her Return from Church. The Rumour of such a Prodigy as this which had happen'd, gave a Sort of Right to all that had heard of it, to come to her, in whose Favour it had been wrought. The Concourse of People was so great, that on the very Day she had receiv'd her Cure, she was oblig'd to put her Health to the utmost Test. She was hardly sat down in her Chair, but was forc'd to rise and walk about her Chamber, to satisfy those who desir'd it, and who were never weary with admiring the Wonder of Almighty God; and for the rest of the Day, she went down into her Court,

Court, to wait on all Persons of any Consideration.

AFTER she had taken a little Rest, she recounted all the Circumstances of the Miracle which God had wrought in her: And this she did, with unexpressible Transports of Joy and Gratitude. The whole Company heard her with Attention, and all gazing at one another, without Power to speak, expressed their Admiration by their Silence, and their Joy by their Tears. She could not yet give any Account of the Moment when she began to recover her Sight, which she had almost lost. Wholly taken up with the Happiness of following in the Procession her divine Physician, when the Use of her Limbs was restor'd to her, she observ'd not whether she saw clear or no: And in the Church, she could not, as was remark'd, think of any Thing else, but of expressing her Gratitude to our Lord, in Acts of Thanksgiving, and in Tears of Joy which she pour'd down. It is true, that upon her going out of the Church, the clear Day dazzled her at the first, and oblig'd her to put her Handkerchief before her Eyes, because she could not bear the Light; but when she had gone some Steps, she took it away, and the Brightness of the Day gave her then no farther Trouble.

WHILE every Body was hastning to Mrs *de la Fosse's*, to learn from her own Mouth what had happen'd to her; at the Parsonage they were no less curious, to be well informed

med of it. Mr. *Guenot*, as little Credit as he had seem'd to give to what was reported of the Cure, went to see her, as others did, so soon as he could find a Moment of Leisure; for certainly the Thing deserv'd at the least to be examin'd. He was no sooner in Sight, when the sick Woman arose, went to meet him, and with a smile, said to him, *Sir, I have not follow'd what you told me*; he answer'd, you did well; and seiz'd with *Astonishment*, was not able to say one Word more.

As for the Rector, he was resolv'd, after Vespers, to know the Truth of the Matter; and for greater Security, being told that Mr *Proubet* Surgeon had attended Mrs. *de la Fosse* in her Illness, he first went to him, and ask'd him, how many Times he had seen her, and whether she had been so ill as was reported: The Surgeon answer'd, that Mrs. *de la Fosse* had been under his Hands for fifteen Years. He gave an Account of the Extremity to which her Distemper had reduc'd her, and added, *That in Case she was cur'd, it could not be without an extraordinary Miracle.*

THE Rector having had the Intelligence he desir'd, carried the Surgeon with him to the sick Woman's House. Being come in, she arose to receive them, and having paid her Respects to the Rector, she address'd herself to Mr *Proubet* in these Terms, *You behold a great Alteration, Sir; a greater Physician than*
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your self has cur'd me. The Surgeon question'd her as to all the Circumstances of her Disease, in order to know for certain, if her Cure was complete; she answer'd him, by giving a Relation of all that had happen'd in her, and said, she had now no Symptom of Weakness. This so tenderly affected him, that he could not restrain his Tears. The Rector seeing the great Marvel which our Lord had operated, blessed God for it, gave Mrs *de la Fosse* the Advice his Piety judg'd necessary, and retir'd with the Surgeon, being reconducted to the Door by Mrs *de la Fosse*, who upon taking Leave, said to him, *Sir, I remember that our Lord said to the Sick whom he had cur'd, Sin no more; and I intreat you to beg this Grace for me.*

THE next Morning Mrs *de la Fosse* went to the Parish, to acquit herself of what she could not execute the Day before. She desir'd a Mass of Thanksgiving might be said for the Miracle God had wrought in her Favour; and she sufficiently shew'd, that as God had deliver'd her Body from its Infirmities, the Health of her Soul had receiv'd a new Recruit. The Intention for which she desir'd the holy Sacrifice to be offer'd, was to beg that God would convert her, and give her all the Humility she needed, to bear the Weight of the Favour she had receiv'd. During the rest of the Octave of *Corpus Christi*, she assisted every Day at the High Mass, and at the Benediction. A Fortnight after, the Shrine
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of St. *Genevieve* being uncover'd, on Occasion of the great Rains, for the ceasing of which, publick Prayers were offer'd to God, she went to the Church which is dedicated under the Name of this Saint, at four in the Morning, on Foot, the Weather being considerably cold and windy; and in fine, from that Time, her Health was establish'd more and more: She was perfectly in good Case; and certainly her Strength must have had somewhat of extraordinary, to put her in a Condition from the very Day of her being cur'd, to entertain the infinite Number of Persons who strove to see her, in order to learn from herself the Circumstances of her Cure, without any Prejudice to her new-recover'd Health, notwithstanding she was under a Necessity of talking almost continually, for the Space of three Months, from Morning to Night.

Mrs *de la Fosse* could have wish'd she might have been dispens'd from receiving into her House so many Persons, whom Devotion or Curiosity directed to her. She was very unwilling to make herself in this Manner a Spectacle to the Publick: But then, on the other Side, she comprehended the Necessity which Gratitude laid upon her, of setting her Cure in so clear a Light, as to render it incontestable. She believ'd, that God had wrought this singular Miracle, more for his own Glory, than for procuring her the Advantage of a Cure: That as he had chosen

fen the Circumstance of a publick Ceremony, to inhance the Splendour of his Power, she could not deny herself to those, whom the Fame of his Wonders drew from all Parts; that in fine, the Will of Superiors, in this particular, ought to have with her the Force of a Law. The only Exception which she made, and certainly with good Reason, was, That some Princesses, within the first eight Days of her Cure, having sent to desire she would come to them, she excus'd herself, alledging that this Octave was for her, an Octave of Thanksgiving; and for that Reason intreated them to take it in good Part, if she went not out of her Way, lest she might fail of assisting at the Parish-Offices; for the rest, her Door was open to all Comers, even during these eight Days. But afterwards it is not to be express'd what Numbers crowded in to see her.

IN Effect, she was seen by Persons of all Ranks. Princes and Princesses, Lords of the first Quality, foreign Ambassadors, Bishops, Rectors, and other Ecclesiasticks, religious Men, Protestants, Ministers of the pretended Reformation, Men and Women of all States and Conditions, all coveted to learn from her own Mouth the Circumstances of her Cure. And she, with a Simplicity and Modesty, which edified all the World, gave every one an Account of the Favours God had done her; heard with Patience all the Questions propos'd to her, answer'd them

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with great Discretion, and as it became a Person animated with the highest Sentiments of Religion, and desirous of inspiring them into those that heard her. She was sometimes prais'd; but when Persons judging of her Piety, by the Graces she had receiv'd, express'd how great an Opinion they had of her; she now and then answer'd them in these Terms, *Be not surpriz'd at what has happen'd. Did not God make Use of Dust for the framing of the first Man? So has he vouchsaf'd to make Use of me a miserable Sinner, as of a nothing, to operate his Marvels, and augment our Faith.* These so commendable Sentiments, join'd with the Account of the great Things which God had wrought in her, charm'd those that heard her, so that they return'd home, equally convinc'd of the Truth of the Miracle, and penetrated with the *Uction* God gave to her Words.

HERE we must not forget to mention the Marks her Husband and herself gave of their Disinterestedness on this Occasion. Every Body knows, that in the Verification of Things extraordinary, which private People are apt now and then to publish for their own Advantage, this Article of all others is the most strictly to be examin'd. A great many Effects there are, pretended to be miraculous, which have nothing real in them, beside the Interest of those who make them the subject Matter of their Ostentation; and, in case they be real Facts, at least it seldom happens, but that they

they serve themselves of them, in order to make their Market of the Curiosity of Spectators. Mr *de la Fosse* and his Spouse have not only behav'd themselves irreproachably, as to this Article, but have even carried their Disinterestedness, as far as Christian Generosity could require. Though Mr *de la Fosse* hardly found a Subsistence for his Family by the Labour of his Hands, and that the long Infirmary of his Spouse had exhausted the little Money he had in Store, they refus'd both the one and the other, to take any Thing from any Hand. Content with their Condition, they chearfully answer'd, That they wanted nothing. God had restor'd Health to Mrs *de la Fosse*: It was by the only Use of this Benefit, that she wou'd hold of God, all that hereafter might be necessary for their Support. In vain did the ingenious Charity of those who desir'd to be her Benefactors, labour to surmount the Niceness of her Disinterestedness, by representing the Relief they offer'd, as a new Favour, which came as it were from the Hand of God himself, who was pleas'd to provide for her Necessities, and finish by his Providence, what his Power had begun. She consider'd the Work of God, in Respect to herself, as consummate by the Cure she had receiv'd; and as for the Helps she expected from his Providence, for supporting her Life, she only desir'd to receive them by the Dint of Labour, to which God had enabled her to apply herself, and which,

in Conjunction with Oeconomy and Frugality, would answer her Wants. Thus she refus'd considerable Presents offer'd in a most pressing Manner; and by Persons too, whom Respect will not ordinarily suffer to be denied: And her Husband being press'd to receive a Sum of Money, which was presented to him, answer'd as became a Man full of Faith, that he would not have it said, *That he had made a Traffick of the Gift of God.*

BUT as bright as this Miracle is in it self, which happen'd in the Person of Mrs *de la Fosse*; and notwithstanding the Lustre that accrues to it, from the Circumstances which accompanied and followed it, we have nevertheless had the Sorrow to see several Persons, who have left nothing undone, to destroy the Certainty of this new Prodigy, to contest its Principle, and to ruin the Fruits of it. This ought not however to surprise us. This Miracle is neither greater nor more certain, than those which our Saviour wrought when he was on Earth, and which were expos'd to the Contradiction of those very Persons, who could not but know the Truth of them. God has his Views, and the Obstacles Men raise against them, serve more sometimes than their zealous Concurrence would have done, to make them take Effect.

SOME Protestants therefore, blinded with their Prejudices, encounter'd the Miracle as impossible, and never yielded till they had exhausted all the Difficulties which could be
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objected to its Reality; others convinc'd of its Certainty, freely own'd the Operation of the Grace of Jesus Christ, in the Cure of Mrs *de la Fosse*; but being interested to persuade themselves, that the Faith of the Person cur'd, had not for its Object Jesus Christ present in the holy Eucharist, they would have made her grant, that she did not invoke him, as hidden under the Symbol of Bread. But she was not capable of such a Mistake. It was not at Random that she implor'd the Assistance of her Deliverer, by crying with a loud Voice when the Blessed Sacrament pass'd, *I believe thou art the same who enter'dst into Jerusalem.* 'Tis as if she had said to those who would have sounded her Intentions at that Moment; *She knew that the same Jesus Christ, who liv'd on Earth, who died, and rose again for our Salvation, and who did so many great Miracles during his Life, was really the same as her Pastor carried in his Hands.*

BUT it must be own'd they are not the Protestants, who give us the greatest Cause to complain: All of them are at last agreed as to the Reality of the Miracle; and some of them, especially the Friend of Mrs *de la Fosse* and her Son have attested it. It were to be wish'd, that this Prodigy had not some more humourfome Adversaries: But after all, in vain has Artifice and Imposture been set at Work to undo it, were it possible: Iniquity betrays itself. One Time the Bruit was spread, that Mrs *de la Fosse* was fallen ill again,

gain, that she had taken to her Bed, and let Blood; and when certain Persons went on the Part of the Cardinal, to learn what Truth there was in this Report, they found it was intirely false. Another Time she was said to be in her Agony; and while this was rumour'd about, four Persons of *Vendome* Square, who had seen her before, took Coach, went to her House, and found her in a more perfect State of Health, than when they had seen her the first Time. Then again it was whisper'd, that she was run mad; and an *English* Lord being come, with some other Persons, to inform himself of the Truth of the Matter, discours'd her for Half an Hour, when she spoke to him of the Favours God had done her, in Terms so moving and pathetick, that he return'd quite penetrated with her Conversation.

WE shall forbear relating in this Place all the Artifices employ'd for attacking the new Miracle. Every Body knows, to what Lengths Malice and Prevention are apt to run: One need only to read in the Gospel, the History of the Man who was blind from his Nativity. But the Power of God has given to the Work of his Hands, a Brightness so superior to all the Clouds with which some People have endeavour'd to obscure it, that it has triumph'd over all the Malice of Men.

IN Effect, the Circumstances alone of this new Prodigy are such, as would suffice of themselves to render it incontestable: The sick

sick Woman, who is cur'd, was known to all in her Neighbourhood, where she has liv'd, for about the Space of twenty Years, with the Reputation of Probity and Virtue, above the Reach of Slander. A considerable Number of Persons were Witnesses of her Infirmary. The Nature of it was such, that three Years or thereabouts before the Miracle, having several Times presented herself at the Physick-school, where she consulted above thirty Doctors at different Times, she was told by all of them, that if a Stop were put to the Issue of Blood, she would die infallibly; and that in Case her Condition would allow it to be stopt, it could only have been done by slow Degrees, because she would otherwise fall into a Dropsy; And yet, what is the End of it? Notwithstanding the Progress of her Disease, for three Years after these Consultations, had now brought her to the Point of Death, Mrs *de la Fosse* finds herself cur'd, and is cur'd in as short a Time, as is requir'd for going from her House to the Church. But what is more surprising, her Cure is not begun with a Cessation of the Flux of Blood; first she recovers her Strength, she walks, and this Prodigy happens at the same Time that she is taken with a Fit of her Illness, which naturally should increase her Weakness. She is follow'd by the Track of her Blood; and it is not, till she comes at the Church Door, that the Issue is dry'd. A Multitude of People are Eye-witnesses to this Marvel. They who
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had not seen her, follow her in Crowds to her House, where their Eyes inform them of the Truth of the Miracle. From this Day an innumerable Multitude of People of both Sexes, of all States, and of all Nations, resort thither, to be ascertain'd of what has happen'd, and will have their Information from Mrs *de la Fosse* her self. Her Health suffices for all, and is even augmented, notwithstanding a Fatigue, which wou'd have wasted the Spirits even of the strongest Constitution. In a Word, the pious Curiosity of some, and the Incredulity of others, gave Occasion for Proofs of every sort, and all of them serv'd to render the Work of God the more unquestionable.

NOTHING was now wanting for giving to this Miracle all the Lustre it could possibly receive, but to have it publish'd in a juridical manner. And to this the Authority of Church and State concurr'd by the Ministry of the Cardinal *de Noailles* on the one Part, and of the Lord Lieutenant on the other. The Cardinal had already had Notice given him of the Miracle by the Rector of St *Margaret's*, the very Day it happen'd. Some Time after, his Piety made him desirous of hearing all its Circumstances from Mrs *de la Fosse* her self. He made her come to the *Enfans Trouvez* of the Suburbs, where all the Informations were taken; and he could not, without shedding Tears, hear the moving Account she gave of the Graces she had receiv'd. He join'd
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with her in blessing our Lord for them, gave her such Advice, as his pastoral Charity inspir'd, to make her retain those Sentiments of Gratitude, and of Humility, with which he had the Comfort to find her penetrated: And, in fine, to render to God all the Glory, which so great an Event demanded, and which depended on his Ministry; at the Request of the Vice-Proctor, his Eminence made an Ordinance, dated *June* the 4th, importing, That he would be inform'd by Mr *Dorsanne*, his Official, of the Facts mention'd in the said Request, and of the Circumstances and Dependencies, with all possible Exactness, and that a verbal Process of the whole should be drawn up, to be reported to his Eminence, and be order'd as he should see Cause. Pursuant thereunto, Mr *Dorsanne* went upon the Place. Above sixty Witnesses were heard. The Protestant Woman and her Son sign'd the verbal Process, and declar'd in express Terms, that they look'd on the Cure of Mrs *de la Fosse*, as a *miraculous Effect of God's Omnipotency*, and that they believ'd, there never was a more certain *Miracle than this*.

THE Informations lasted from the 4th to the 27th; during which Space, the Official was twelve Times on the Place. And in this Interval, there happen'd a little diverting Incident, which indeed is nothing in it self, but methinks deserves to be related in this Place. There are several who have heard it told. The youngest Boy of Mrs *de la Fosse* did a

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Fault one Day in the Presence of his Mother; and of the Company that was with her; and being sensible that he had done ill, he was making his Escape. His Mother ran after him to give him some Correction, and catch'd him. Finding himself caught, he fell a-crying; and grieving, that now he cou'd not run from her, *Ah!* said he, *how unlucky was that Hour for me, when you found your Legs; so long as you were in your Arm-Chair, you cou'd not run after me, and I had Time to fly.* The Persons that were present, burst into Laughter at this innocent Complaint; And in this very Juncture the Vice-Proctor coming in, and seeing all of them in Mirth, they gave him an Account of all that had pass'd, and he could not forbear laughing with the rest.

THE Official's Informations were not yet finish'd, when his Eminence, by another Ordinance, commission'd these Gentlemen, *Afforty, Leaute, Gelly, Geoffroy, and Hermant*, Physicians of the Faculty of *Paris*, to examine jointly the State of *Mrs de la Fosse*. They made their Report; and, in fine, the Surgeon, whose Patient she had been, had appear'd before the Official, and attested, that the Cure was complete. The Physicians declar'd the same. And their Deposition concerning the present State of the sick Woman, being join'd with the Notoriety of her precedent Condition, and of the manner she had been publickly cur'd; having consider'd the Depositions of the Witnesses, and the Report of the Doctors, his

his Eminence declar'd by a Mandate, bearing Date the 10th of *August*, That the Cure wrought in the Person of *Mrs de la Fosse* at the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish of *St Margaret*, was extraordinary, supernatural, and miraculous: Permitted in Consequence the said Cure to be publish'd and proclaim'd as such: And to encourage the People of his Diocess, and in particular, the Parishioners of *St. Margaret's*, to pay their Acknowledgements to Almighty God; his Eminence ordain'd, that on *Thursday* the 23d of the same Month, there shou'd be celebrated in *St Margaret's Church*, a solemn Office of the Blessed Sacrament, during which, the Blessed Sacrament shou'd be expos'd, and that it shou'd be concluded with a *Te Deum*. The Cardinal ordain'd likewise, that the *Sunday* following, the Clergy of *St Margaret's Parish* shou'd, after Vespers in the Metropolitan Church, make a solemn Procession thither, to thank God for the Wonders he had wrought in the said Parish, and shou'd there sing the *Te Deum*: And, in fine, to perpetuate to Posterity the Memory of so great a Benefit, that in *St Margaret's Church* should be plac'd a Stone, in which an Extract of the Purvieu of his Mandate shou'd be ingrav'd.

THE Mandate was read in all the Parishes of the Diocess. The Matter highly concern'd the People. The Facts were there exhibited, in a manner so becoming the Subject, and the Reflections that were interspers'd,

breath'd so much of Piety, and were so pathetic, that one cou'd not hear it read, without shedding Tears. Many Rectors, as well of the City, as in the Country, made it the Subject of several Discourses: Others, on Occasion of the Miracle, gave repeated Instructions in the Parish Churches. And the Preachers in Town proclaim'd every where from the Pulpits, the Glory of the Wonders God had wrought.

The *Thursday*, on which the solemn Office of the Blessed Sacrament had been order'd to be celebrated, was observ'd with exceeding Pomp. The Ecclesiasticks of all the Parishes of *Paris*, desir'd to partake in the Joy of that of *St Margaret*, and repair'd to the Church, where they sung the Office with the Clergy of the Parish. There was a prodigious Concourse of People through the whole Day, which increas'd still more at the Benediction. The Piety of his Eminence mov'd him to officiate there in his Pontifical Robes. The Blessing was follow'd with a Procession through the Streets, as on the Feast of *Corpus Christi*. The Houses were hung with Tapistry, as they us'd to be on that Solemnity, and the Devotion of the People excited them to make all the Preparations suitable to the Occasion. His Eminence carry'd the Blessed Sacrament in the Procession, which lasted about an Hour and an half; and 'tis a Thing worth remarking, that tho' the Heavens were loaded with heavy Clouds, which pour'd down great Showers
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of Rain in the City, all the Time of the Procession, yet it rain'd not in the Suburbs, till the Moment the Blessed Sacrament was enter'd into the Church.

THERE remain'd another Procession to be made, pursuant to the Ordinance given in the Mandate. It was fixt to the *Sunday* following, and was made in the Afternoon on the Day appointed; but with a Solemnity, which has scarcely ever had its Example. First, there march'd at the Head, the Girls of the Parish Schools, to the Number of a Thousand or thereabouts; much the same Number of Boys follow'd them; after these, the Members of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, to a considerable Number: All of them rang'd in two Lines, and conducted by fifty Ecclesiasticks, who walk'd in the Ranks at proper Distances. In the Way, they sung with the Clergy, Psalms that were chosen out as most proper for a Thanksgiving. And the Modesty which appear'd on every Countenance, in Conjunction with the Consort of Voices, was a Spectacle exceedingly moving to all that beheld it. After those of the Confraternity, follow'd the Clergy, who were far more numerous than on *Thursday*: They amounted to above the Number of three hundred; which will appear to be very extraordinary, if we consider the Distance of *St Margaret's* Parish from most of the rest; and withal, that it was a *Sunday*, when they thus withdrew from their respective Churches. The Rectors of *Paris* also

also signaliz'd themselves on this Occasion. It was not thought on till the Day before, to give them an Invitation; and yet a considerable Number of them assisted in their Stoles at the Ceremony; others, who were hinder'd by their Employments, made their Excuses to the Rector of St *Margaret's*; and the Rector of St. *Sulpice's* in particular wrote to him a Letter, which shew'd how far his Devotion made him to partake in the Marvels with which God had honour'd the Ministry of his Brother.

Mrs *de la Fosse*, who had been at the Procession on *Thursday*, assisted also at this on *Sunday*, walking immediately after the Clergy, with a Wax Candle in her Hand, and accompany'd by her Husband. As she was the Person on whom the Miracle was wrought, it was reasonable she should hold a Place of Distinction in the Ceremony of Thanksgiving; and though her Humility made it uneasy to her, for this one Time more, it was requisite she should shew her self in publick. She appear'd therefore at the Procession, but with a Modesty and a Recollection, which was edifying to all about her. So that, if she was the principal Object of every Bodies Eyes, we may safely say, that for her part, she saw no body.

ONE may easily judge, what a vast Number there was of Spectators. The Streets were crowded with them all the Way, which, as every one knows, are very long. The
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other Streets were wholly deserted; and the nearer they came to the Cathedral, the Passage was so straitned, that the Procession cou'd not, without much Difficulty, make room to enter into the Church; and then the Noise of Acclamations was so loud, that it drown'd the Voices of the Clergy, notwithstanding they were so numerous.

THEY enter'd the Church with the Sound of Organs, which play'd during the *Te Deum*. The Rector of St Margaret's began it, and was follow'd by the Clergy, and innumerable People, who fill'd the whole Body of the Cathedral Church. A faintly Joy was spread over every Countenance, and the Devotion, with which this Homage of Thanks was paid, was so moving an Object, that none could possibly behold it without Tears.

THIS Ceremony being ended, there happen'd nothing considerable in relation to Mrs *de la Fosse*, till the 16th of *December*, which was the Day she appear'd before the King and Queen, and before his most Serene Highness the Duke of *Bourbon*, first Minister of State: But somewhat must here be said of the Occasion, which procur'd her this Honour. It was not in the least the Desire of shewing her self at Court, which carry'd her thither. An Ambition of this Nature wou'd by no means have been agreeable to the Character of Simplicity, which every one has remark'd in her Conduct; and her natural Timidity made her absolutely incapable of entertaining
such

such a Thought. It was only the Necessity of doing a Charity, which first set her on the Way: But the Engagement of her first Steps afterwards led her farther, than she expected. The Case was this:

IN the Month of *August* of the same Year, about the Time of the Miracle, or not long after it, there had been a considerable Riot in the Suburbs of St *Antony*. Two of the Rioters had been executed, and other two, who had been taken up in the same Riot, were kept in Prison; and after they had lain there for some Months, had been condemn'd to perpetual Confinement in the Hospital of *Bicêtre*. The Relations of these latter, and others who were concern'd for their Misery, had left nothing undone, to obtain their Liberty; but without Success. Finding therefore, that they cou'd not gain their Point, it came into their Heads, to make Application to Mrs *de la Fosse*, flattering themselves, that a Person so fam'd in *Paris*, and in Favour of whom God Almighty had dispos'd all Hearts, cou'd not be refus'd, if she wou'd only use the Credit, which accru'd to her from the Consideration all the World had for her. Mrs *de la Fosse*, incapable of taking her self to be a Woman of Importance, was not at the first dispos'd to be assisting in such a Work; she excus'd her self a long Time; but was so closely besieg'd with continual Entreaties, which were made to her, that she was forc'd to yield to the Importunity.

SHE

SHE was made to believe, that a Petition presented with her Hand to the Count *de Maurepas*, wou'd finish the Matter, without going any farther: She therefore watch'd all Opportunities of having Audience of this Minister; but to gain it in the Time she had limited, she must have gone to *Fountainbleau*, where the Court was; and besides that the Affairs of *Mrs de la Fosse* wou'd not permit her to go so far from home, she fear'd it might make too great a Noise. For these Reasons, she chose to wait the King's Return to *Versailles*, for presenting her Petition. She then took her Place in the Stage-Coach that goes thither, fully resolv'd to be seen by no other Persons, save only those, before whom the Affair in hand shou'd oblige her indispensably to make her Appearance. But Providence wou'd have it otherwise. For being arriv'd at *Versailles*, as she was alighting out of the Coach, a Footman belonging to the Dutches of *Ventadour* knew her by Sight, and came to salute her. *Mrs de la Fosse* very earnestly desir'd him to say nothing of her being come; but in Vain, for he discover'd her to the Dutches, who sent in search of her, and made her lodge in her House; and having learn'd what it was that had brought her thither, and promis'd her to espouse her Cause, she told her, that she must absolutely see the Queen. This Lady had already told her, when at *Paris*, that she wou'd procure her this Honour, when her Majesty was return'd

to *Versailles*, that she was a Princess of uncommon Piety, and would be mighty glad to have from her own Mouth, a Relation of the Favours God had done her. Mrs *de la Fosse* on her Part desir'd to be excus'd, out of her profound Respect for her Majesty, before whom she accounted herself unworthy to appear. But as she was now at *Versailles*, and in the House of the Dutchess of *Ventadour*, she was oblig'd to consent to what this Lady requir'd of her.

THE Day after her Arrival, she went to Mr *de Maurepas*, and presented her Petition. This Minister made some Difficulty of granting her Request, and told her, That if the Men, whose Liberty she begg'd, were not to be confin'd at *Bicêtre*, they must at least be banish'd from *Paris*. Mrs *de la Fosse*, who desir'd to obtain an intire Pardon, represented to him, how the Persons, for whom she interested herself, were not Vagabonds, but had their Family in the Suburbs, and were of a Trade, which employing them to Advantage, might hinder them from taking ill Courses; whereas were they banish'd from *Paris*, it would put them into the Temptation of doing ill; that by Consequence the Pardon which should be granted them would be of no Advantage, either to themselves, or to the State, unless it were complete: Over and above that she was able to prove from a Piece inserted in her Petition, that the Persons for whom she pleaded had not been convicted

victed, in the Trial they had had at the Chatelet. In Answer to this, Mr *de Maurepas* told her, That she must necessarily address the Duke, that he alone had Power to grant her Petition, and he gave her Hopes of obtaining it.

SHE therefore took her Measures, for obtaining Admission to his Highness. Several Ladies shew'd their Zeal to serve her, and to bespeak the Duke's Favour in her Behalf: And in fine, on the sixteenth of *December*, the third Day after her Arrival at *Versailles*, she had the Honour to appear before this Prince. " She presented to him her most humble Request, which at first he seem'd not inclin'd to grant her, saying that it was necessary to make an Example of those Rioters. Mrs *de la Fosse*, with a great deal of Modesty, answer'd, That a sufficient Severity had been exerted, in condemning two of the Criminals to suffer Death; that Justice was now satisfied, and that she was come to implore Mercy. To this the Duke graciously replied, because God has shewn you Mercy, you suppose that we must also shew the Mercy you ask. Well, it must not be denied you." Mrs *de la Fosse* made him a low Courtesy, and withdrew.

It is to be observ'd, that when Mrs *de la Fosse* was presented to the Duke, she was not a little frighted to appear before him, in Presence of a Number of Lords, and of others

that stood round him ; and who knowing her Character, were eager to see her. And unhappily she had not well recover'd herself, when it was told her, that she must go and make her Appearance before their Majesties; the King din'd that Day with the Queen in private. The Dutchess of *Ventadour* was not then at *Versailles* ; the Sickness of the Prince of *Soubise* had oblig'd her to go to *Paris* ; so that she was introduc'd to the Queen by other Ladies, whom the Dutchess had desir'd to do her this good Office.

WHEN she appear'd before their Majesties, the profound Respect, with which she was seiz'd in their Presence, increas'd her Confusion: She gave an Account of the Favour God had done her, but with so much Bashfulness, that she was scarce able to articulate the chief Circumstances, and trembled while she answer'd the Questions, which the Queen was pleas'd to put to her. So that nothing happen'd remarkable on this Occasion, besides the Words which the King address'd to her when she went out. She cast her self on her Knees before his Majesty, to beg the Honour of his Protection; and the King paying Homage himself to the Power of God, which had so illustriously appear'd in her, answer'd, *A Person so visibly protected by Almighty God, needs not the Protection of an earthly Prince, as I am.* Mrs de la Fosse replied respectfully, that she should look on the Protection which his Majesty granted her, as a new Mark of the Good-

ness of God towards her; and having paid her profound Respects, she retir'd.

THERE was no Time, after she had had this Honour, to make her many Compliments upon it. She withdrew the same Day to a Friend, who liv'd at a Distance, and return'd the next Day to *Paris*, to confine herself to her Household Affairs, and assist her Husband in his Way of Trade.

SUCH is the History of the Miracle, which happen'd in the Parish of *St. Margaret*. We have added nothing to the real Facts, nor made the least Retrenchment, but have expos'd them with all possible Fidelity: May this Relation contribute to revive the almost extinguish'd Faith of our Days: May it animate the Faithful to qualify themselves more and more for the divine Food, of which the Sight alone accomplishes such Marvels, and render them attentive to the Instruction which God designs to give them, by this late Miracle: For Prodigies are, as it were, the Voice of God, who calls aloud to signify his Pleasure to us; and he works them more for his Glory, than for the Particular Advantage of the Person, in whom he manifests his Power. Let our Faith awake from its Slumbers, and consult him. He will answer us; and our Readiness in submitting to what he requires of us, will secure us from the Condemnation, which falls upon such who shut their Ears and are deaf to his Voice.

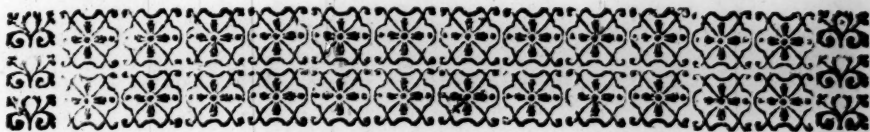


The CERTIFICATE *of Mrs*
De la FOSSE.

I Underwritten, certify, that all
the Facts contain'd in this
Relation are true. *Paris, February*
the 3d. 1726.

*Anne Charlier, By Mar-
riage De la Fosse.*





A N

ADVERTISEMENT.

*A*FTER the finishing of this Relation, some, incommoded with the Fame of the late Miracle, have not stuck to publish, both in France and in foreign Countries, that Mrs de la Fosse was dead; in England they have positively asserted it, which made certain English Lords, who have been at Paris for some Time, resolve to inform themselves of the Truth of it. They thought the most natural Method was to go to her House; and last February they executed their Resolution: They had in their Hands Letters written from England, which mention'd her Death and Burial; and for their greater Precaution, they carried a Physician with them, to judge of the State of her Health, in case she were alive. In effect, they found her not only alive, but in perfect Health: And upon her asking them, if they were well persuaded, that it was she herself who spoke to them, some of them made Answer, That they easily knew her again, that they came to see her six Days after her Recovery, and that now they found no Alteration in her, save only an Increase of Health: Then

Then they ask'd her, if she would be pleas'd to write her Name at the Bottom of the Letter, which they were to send into England; and she did it. The first of last February, a Certificate of the Life of Mrs de la Fosse was desir'd for one of the remotest Provinces of the Kingdom. She appear'd before Notaries, and the Certificate was drawn in form. Behold in fine, another of a fresher Date, of March 15th 1726, which we think necessary to publish, for the Satisfaction of the most distant Provinces in this Kingdom, and of foreign Countries, that all these Rumours may be silenc'd: 'Tis the Certificate of the Rector of St. Margaret's, the Parish where the Miracle was wrought, and where Mrs de la Fosse has her Dwelling: It is approv'd by the Lord Lieutenant; so that nothing can be desir'd more authentick.




THE



T H E
C E R T I F I C A T E
O F T H E
R e c t o r o f S t *Margaret's*.

“ W E underwritten Priest and Doctor of the
 “ Faculty of *Paris*, ancient Proctor-Ge-
 “ neral of the Archbishoprick of *Paris*, Rector
 “ of St *Margaret's* in the Suburbs of St. *An-*
 “ *tony*; do certify, That Mrs *de la Fosse* our
 “ Parishioner, who was cur'd miraculously at
 “ the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament of
 “ our Parish, on the 31st of May of the
 “ Year past, has continu'd from that Time
 “ to enjoy a perfect Health; that she is actu-
 “ ally alive, and in Health; that she assists
 “ *Sundays* and Holidays at the Parish-Office, in
 “ View of the Publick to this very Day. Gi-
 “ ven at *Paris*, March 15th 1726.

G O Y.

 The above-said Certificate warranted by the
 Lord Lieutenant.

“ We *Ferome d' Argourges* Knight, Lord
 “ of *Fleury*, and other Places, one of his
 “ Majesty's most honourable Privy Coun-
 “ cil, Titular Master of the Court of the
 H Green-

“ Green-Cloath, Lord-Lieutenant of the Ci-
 “ ty, Precincts and Viscounty of *Paris*, do
 “ certify all whom it may concern, That
 “ Mr Goy is Rector of the Parish of St Mar-
 “ garet in *Paris*, and that Credit ought to be
 “ given to the Certificates given by him. In
 “ Testimony whereof, we have sign’d these
 “ Presents, and caus’d them to be counter-
 “ sign’d by our Secretary, and have put the
 “ Seal of our Arms. *Paris, March 16th,*
 “ 1726.

D’ ARGOURGES.

By my said Lord
 Barbay.



